विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज भारद्वाज) : (क) और (ख) मतदाताओं को फोटो पहचान पत्र जारी करने का प्रस्ताव काफी समय से सरकार के विचाराधीन है । सिक्किम और नागालैंड राज्यों में इसके पूर्व चयनात्मक आधार पर कार्यान्वित की गई पहचान पत्र जारी किए जाने की स्कीम को लागू करने के अनुभव के आधार पर, निर्वाचन आयोग की यह राय है कि केवल मतदान के प्रयोजन के लिए फोटो पहचान पत्र जारी करने से कोई सार्थक प्रयोजन सिद्ध नहीं होगा; इसके बजाय सभी नागरिकों को उनकी व्यक्तिगत पहचान, जहां कहीं भी अपेक्षित हो, स्थापित करने के प्रयोजन के लिए बहुउद्देशीय पहचान पत्र जारी किए जाने चाहिए ।

(ग) और (घ) सभी नागरिकों को ऐसे बहुउद्देशीय फोटो पहचान पत्र जारी करने की संभाव्यता अभी स्थापित की जानी है और यह बताना संभव नहीं है कि इस बारे में कब तक अंतिम विनिश्चय किया जाएगा या उस पर कितना व्यय होगा ।

Amnesty in petty criminal cases pending in courts of Madhya Pradesh

1290 SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Madhya Pradesh Government had taken a decision to grant amnesty in petty criminal cases, pending in courts till 1987 and thereby saving approximately Rs. 1 crore every year on account of the cost of holding trails; and

(b) the number of petty criminal cases in the courts of Madhya Pradesh and the cases pending in the country State-wise, as on the December, 1992 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pending cases in High Courts and Supreme Court

1291. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL : SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending in each High Court and the Supreme Court of India, as on 31st January, 1993;

(b) the year to which the oldest case pertains to in each of the High Courts and Supreme Court;

(c) whether there is any action plan to clear all the cases in a time bound period;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) what is the justification to close the courts for summer and winter vacations when a large number of cases are pending in the various courts; and

(f) whether Government would like to have a fresh look on this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) The various recommendations made by the Arrears Committee, which examined the problem of arrears in the Courts, covering various aspects have been commended to all concerned State Governments/High Courts for necessary follow-up action. As per the decision taken in the Law Ministers Conference held in October, 1992 at Bangalore, three working groups of the State Law Ministers have been constituted to suggest measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Arrears Committee so as to expedite the disposal of pending cases in the Courts. However, it is not practicable to prescribe a time schedule for the disposal of pending cases in the Courts.

(e) and (f) on the basis of the observations made by the Estimate Committee, the Supreme Court had increased its working days from 220 to 222 (including Saturdays). The Chief Justices' Conference held in 1987 did not accept the suggestion for further increasing the working days